

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY C:RHOPPER
APPROVED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY
EUR/SE:REWING
IO:WMAYNES
C:MNIMETZ
H:TWESTON
S/S: JETHYDEN

-----038951 070218Z /20

O P 070051Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171088

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM WARREN CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, MASS TU; CY; UN

SUBJECT: STIMULATING MOVEMENT ON VAROSHA

REFS: (A) ANKARA 4918 (NOTAL); (B) STATE 161586;
(C) USUN 2707

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1. WE WANT TO ENGAGE YOUR HELP IN MAKING AN APPROACH TO
WALDHEIM ON CYPRUS. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS RESPONDED
TO OUR RECENT DRAFT PAPER ON VAROSHA. THEY HAVE MODIFIED
IT SOMEWHAT BUT, IN GENERAL, WE BELIEVE THE PAPER IS A
CLEAR STEP FORWARD AND PUTS THE TURKS ON RECORD AS
FAVORING A SIGNIFICANT ROLE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS IN
VAROSHA. IN PROVIDING THEIR RESPONSE TO US, THEY SEEMED

TO LEAVE OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF SWEETENING THEIR OFFER THROUGH DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UN.

2. THE TURKISH RESPONSE (TEXT PARA 7-9) BUILDS ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S CYPRUS REPORT OF MAY 31. WE WOULD LIKE TO USE THE TURKISH RESPONSE IN A MANNER THAT WILL BOTH IMPROVE THE CHANCES FOR PROGRESS TOWARDS A CYPRUS SOLUTION AND HELP US IN OUR EFFORTS TO WIN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR OUR EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAM. WE STRONGLY HOPE THAT A

VERSION OF THIS PLAN ACCEPTABLE TO THE TURKISH SIDE AND THE UN CAN BE MADE PUBLIC IN THE NEXT TEN DAYS OR SO.

3. AS YOU WILL RECALL, AMBASSADOR LEONARD BRIEFED WALDHEIM ON OUR GENERAL VAROSHA PROPOSAL JUNE 27. THE UN HAS SUBSEQUENTLY INQUIRED ABOUT THE TURKISH RESPONSE. WE REQUEST THAT YOU SEEK AN EARLY APPOINTMENT WITH WALDHEIM TO PRESENT HIM WITH THE TURKISH DRAFT AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- THE ATTACHED PAPER HAS BEEN DISCUSSED BY US WITH THE GOT AND REFLECTS SOME OF THE IDEAS WE SHARED WITH THE UN A WEEK AGO. IT HAS BEEN PERSONALLY APPROVED BY PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT. WE BELIEVE IT REPRESENTS A FURTHER PUBLIC CONFIRMATION OF TURKISH FLEXIBILITY CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ULTIMATE STATUS OF VAROSHA, AND SHOULD BE UTILIZED AS PART OF THE ONGOING UN EFFORT TO STIMULATE A RESUMPTION OF MEANINGFUL INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS.

-- IN TERMS OF PROCEDURE, WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT DENKTASH MAY FORMALLY TRANSMIT THE PAPER TO WALDHEIM--AND MAKE IT PUBLIC AT THE SAME TIME--IF WALDHEIM REQUESTS THEIR VIEWS ON HOW TO MOVE TOWARDS A RESUMPTION OF TALKS AND SUGGESTS THAT TURKISH CYPRIOT SUPPORT FOR AN INTERIM UN ROLE IN VAROSHA WOULD BE A POSITIVE FACTOR.

-- WALDHEIM, IN ANY CONTACTS WITH THE TURKISH SIDE, SHOULD FEEL FREE TO MENTION THAT WE HAVE SHARED THE TURKISH TEXT WITH HIM AND HE SHOULD NOT FEEL HESITANT ABOUT SUGGESTING AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT TO THE TURKS. WE PRESUME THAT DENKTASH HAS BEEN MADE AWARE OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS BY ANKARA.

-- WE LEAVE THE TACTICS TO WALDHEIM. WE ARE READY TO BE SUPPORTIVE OF HIS EFFORTS IN ANY WAY HE MAY DESIRE. WE STRONGLY HOPE THAT HE CAN ACT QUICKLY AS WE BELIEVE THE TURKISH DESIRE TO BE FLEXIBLE DURING THIS PERIOD OFFERS

GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR MAKING PROGRESS ON VAROSHA.

4. FOR USUN: YOU SHOULD INFORM THE SECRETARIAT ABOUT THE GENERAL APPROACH WE WILL BE MAKING TO WALDHEIM IN GENEVA.

5. FOR ANKARA: YOU SHOULD INFORM THE TURKS THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT WALDHEIM IN GENEVA AND ARE SUGGESTING HE BE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE TURKS CONCERNING THEIR PAPER.

6. FOR NICOSIA: YOU SHOULD BRIEF GALINDO POHL OR GORGE ON THESE DEVELOPMENTS. YOU SHOULD ALSO CHECK WITH DENKTASH TO SEE WHAT HIS PLANS ARE ON VAROSHA.

7. BEGIN TEXT: IN HIS MAY 31, 1978 REPORT ON THE
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UNITED NATIONS OPERATION IN CYPRUS, SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM OBSERVED THAT "THE TIME MAY BE RIPE FOR A CONCRETE ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH SOME IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THE EXISTING STALEMATE ON THE GROUND, THUS CREATING AN OPENING FOR FURTHER SIGNIFICANT STEPS. THE STATUS OF VAROSHA, WHICH OBVIOUSLY SHOULD NOT BE KEPT IN ITS PRESENT EMPTY AND DECAYING CONDITION, MAY PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THIS KIND. SINCE VAROSHA IS SITUATED IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE BUFFER ZONE, IT WOULD SEEM NATURAL TO ENVISAGE UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE IN THIS CONNECTION."

8. TH: TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAD ALREADY INDICATED THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOT INHABITANTS OF VAROSHA WOULD BE ABLE TO BEGIN RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES AND PROPERTIES IN THE CITY AS SOON AS THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ARE RECONVENED. THEY HAVE SPECIFIED THAT AS MANY AS 35,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS CAN THUS BE RESETTLED COMMENCING SHORTLY AFTER THE RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS. THE LEGITIMATE SECURITY CONCERNS OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED IN DEFINING THE AREA OF RESETTLEMENT AND ESTABLISHING THE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS THEREIN. THE TURKISH SIDE HAS MADE IT CLEAR, MOREOVER, THAT THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF VAROSHA IS FULLY OPEN TO NEGOTIATION. IN CONJUNCTION THESE ELEMENTS REPRESENT A CONSTRUCTIVE OPENING POSITION, EXPRESSIVE OF TURKISH CYPRIOT GOOD WILL AND SINCERITY.

9. WITH THE ABOVE IN MIND, THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS ARE
HEREBY MADE:

-- PENDING A FINAL SETTLEMENT AND UPON THE RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ON THE BASIS OF DENKTASH-MAKARIOS AGREEMENT OF 12 FEBRUARY 1977, AN INTERIM ADMINISTRATION SHALL BE SET UP IN VAROSHA WITHOUT ANY PREJUDICE EITHER
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TO THE EXISTING TURKISH CYPRIOT JURISDICTION OVER THE AREA OR TO THE FINAL POLITICAL STATUS THEREOF. THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATION WHICH WILL FUNCTION UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE UNFICYP SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WHO WILL SETTLE IN THE AREA, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION AND THE UNFICYP.

-- THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATION'S ORGANS AND FUNCTIONS WHICH SHALL INCLUDE THE SUPERVISION OF ESSENTIAL MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND THE EXERCISE OF NORMAL POLICE FUNCTIONS SHALL BE DETERMINED THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION AND THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE.

10. THE RESETTLEMENT OF VAROSHA SHALL PROCEED BY STAGES, WITH THE EXPECTATION THAT UP TO 15,000 PERSONS WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN WITHIN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE RESUMPTION OF MEANINGFUL AND RESULT-ORIENTED NEGOTIATIONS. THE UNITED NATIONS SHALL PROVIDE SUCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO SURVEY AND REHABILITATE THE CITY'S INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUILDINGS AND TO FACILITATE THE PROCESS OF RESETTLEMENT. END TEXT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE171088
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RHOPPER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780278-0578
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780785/aaaactpk.tel
Line Count: 199
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ce536479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 ANKARA 4918, 78 STATE 161586, 78 USUN NEW YORK 2707
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2085337
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STIMULATING MOVEMENT ON VAROSHA
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, TU, CY, US, UN
To: GENEVA USUN NEW YORK MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ce536479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014